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Article helps friends reconnect after 54 years

Jean Orr Belcher '53

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NEXT REUNION IN 2011

Anne-Leigh Gaylord Moe has joined the Tampa (Fla.) law firm of Bush Ross, P.A., as an associate in the commercial litigation and dispute resolution group. She previously clerked for U.S. District Court Judge Virginia M. Hernandez Covington.

Scott Saucedo received his degree from the University of Miami (Fla.) School of Medicine in May and began residency training in neurology in Oklahoma City in July.

MARRIAGES: **Whitney Brown** and Luke Cawley, December 30. They live in Cardiff, Wales. For the past two years,

Whitney has taught at an international school in Bucharest, Romania.

Heather Flanagan and Jared Ross, March 10. Heather works for the state of Florida as an assistant attorney general in the criminal appeals division. Jared is director for public policy for the state's American Cancer Society. They live in Tallahassee.

Travis Devin Pitman and Jennifer Ann Bowling, May 26. Jennifer teaches in Spartanburg (S.C.) School District 6, and Travis teaches and coaches in Greenville County Schools.

Aubrey Sloan and Shea Lambert, March 24. They live in Tallahassee, Fla., where Shea is director of network services for United Solutions Co.

BIRTH: Morgan and **Megan Palmer Camp**, a daughter, Allie Katherine, December 6, Gainesville, Fla. Megan is a pediatric social worker and Morgan is completing a radiology residency at the University of Florida's Shands Hospital.

02

THIS YEAR IS REUNION!

Having worked with the Bush administration and the Republican National Committee, **Josh Cooper** has moved from the Washington, D.C., area to Memphis, Tenn., and started Next Generation Strategies LLC, a public affairs, political consulting and government relations firm.

Alex Fernandez earned an M.D. degree from the Medical University of South Carolina in May.

Shelvis Smith-Mather received a Master of Theology degree from the Candler School of Theology at Emory University in May, graduating as valedictorian of his class.

Rebecca Rank Stone has earned a master's degree in education from Converse College.

Matthew Teevan has been named director of international sales for Da-Lite Screen Company, for which he had been marketing manager. He lives in Paris, France.

ARTICLE HELPS FRIENDS RECONNECT AFTER 54 YEARS

When Jean Orr Belcher '53 was named 2006 South Carolina Mother of the Year, Furman magazine recognized the honor with a story about her in the Summer 2006 issue. Little did we know that the article would lead to a special reunion.

Jean sent a note describing what happened:

Gilda Cheng Li, a 1953 Furman graduate, was a classmate and very close friend of mine while we were both at Furman. Somehow, as often happens, we did not correspond after graduation, and we completely lost contact with one another.

Several months ago I received an e-mail from her. She explained that after reading the article in the magazine concerning my being the 2006 Mother of the Year, she called Furman and was given my e-mail address. She wrote a long note, giving me an update on her life and family.

She noticed from the article that we have a son in Little Rock, Ark. She does too, and said she planned to visit him and his family in early April, close to Easter. She wanted to know if we were planning a trip soon. We had already discussed leaving the same day she was.

We arrived, made a telephone call and arranged to have lunch. What a wonderful experience! Her family invited us to their home to have dinner later in the week.



Jean (left) and Gilda had plenty to catch up on during their reunion in Little Rock.

I don't know when I have enjoyed such a delightful visit and reunion — after 54 years! She and I both plan to be at our 55th reunion next year if our plans materialize.

If it had not been for *Furman* magazine, this would have never happened.

Thank you for leading to such a happy experience for both of us.

We're pleased the magazine helped these friends unite, especially since they live at opposite ends of the country — Gilda in Vancouver, Wash., and Jean in Rock Hill, S.C.